



Revised

A Message from **Mayor Sharpe James**

Newark, New Jersey 07102
(201) 733-6400

FOURTH STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

HONORABLE SHARPE JAMES, MAYOR

CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

JANUARY 23, 1990



Together, we can make a difference!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE TONIGHT, AND WELCOME TO MY FOURTH ANNUAL STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS. LET ME THANK MY WIFE, MARY, AND SONS FOR THEIR LOVE AND SUPPORT. IT'S NOT EASY BEING MARRIED TO A POLITICIAN WHO IS SELDOM HOME!

IT IS NOW THREE YEARS AND SIX MONTHS SINCE JULY 1, 1986 WHEN I WAS SWORN INTO OFFICE AS YOUR MAYOR. I STATED THEN THAT THE CHALLENGE WAS TO DO MORE WITH LESS. WE FACED A \$25 MILLION SHORTFALL IN OUR MUNICIPAL BUDGET. AND, THERE WAS NO HELP COMING FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, WHICH WAS ENDING REVENUE SHARING, CUTTING BACK ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION GRANTS (UDAGS), AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS (CDBG)--ALL OF WHICH HAD BEEN USED AS SURVIVAL TOOLS BY FINANCIALLY-STRAPPED, URBAN CITIES.

THOSE WERE BLEAK TIMES. AND, THERE WERE NO EASY SOLUTIONS IN THE OFFING. NO QUICK FIX. THEN WE REMEMBERED AND WERE ENCOURAGED BY THE WORDS FROM THE SPIRITUAL SONGS: "HE DIDN'T BRING US THIS FAR TO LEAVE US NOW." OR "WE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH."

THROUGHOUT MY CAMPAIGN AS MAYOR AND ON THAT DAY ALMOST FOUR YEARS AGO WHEN I TOOK THE OATH OF OFFICE IN SYMPHONY HALL, I PROMISED YOU A "SHARPE CHANGE," RATHER THAN BUSINESS AS USUAL. TONIGHT, THREE AND ONE-HALF YEARS LATER, I CAN HONESTLY AND PROUDLY REPORT THAT HERE IN THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY'S

LARGEST CITY; THE THIRD OLDEST MAJOR CITY IN AMERICA AND THE FINAL RESTING PLACE FOR THE PURITANS, WE DID KEEP OUR WORD AND NEWARK HAS A "SHARPE CHANGE."

YES, WE MADE A "SHARPE CHANGE," NOT A COMPLETE CHANGE. AND, I WOULD BE THE FIRST PERSON TO ADMIT TONIGHT THAT WE HAVE NOT SOLVED ALL OF NEWARK'S PROBLEMS, NOR DO WE CURRENTLY HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS TO THE MANY LEGITIMATE CONCERNS FACING URBAN AMERICA. THE DILEMMAS CONFRONTING OUR CITY ARE THE SAME PROBLEMS THAT CHALLENGE CITIES THROUGHOUT OUR NATION. BUT THEY ARE PERHAPS MORE ACUTE HERE BECAUSE NEWARK IS AN OLD CITY AND A CROWDED CITY, BUT WE REMAIN A PROUD CITY THAT REPRESENTS THE HEART AND LEADERSHIP OF NEW JERSEY, AND WE ARE NOT AFRAID TO TACKLE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS. WE DO NOT SWEEP OUR PROBLEMS UNDER THE RUG.

SO, TONIGHT WE CONFESS THAT THESE THREE AND ONE-HALF YEARS ARE JUST A START, NOT A KNOW-IT-ALL CONCLUSION, BUT A "SHARPE CHANGE," NOT A COMPLETE CHANGE. FOR, WE HAVE ONLY JUST BEGUN!

YET, OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHTER THAN EVER BEFORE. WE SEE MAJOR CHANGES BOTH PHYSICALLY, ATTITUDINALLY AND MORALLY IN EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD OF OUR CITY. OUR HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS FOR BETTER TOMORROWS CONTINUE TO CLIMB EVERYDAY. LIKE THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., THE GREAT MODERN DAY PROPHET, WE NOW HAVE ALSO BEEN TO THE MOUNTAIN TOP, AND KNOW THAT THE FUTURE OF OUR CITY LIES IN OUR HANDS.

WITH THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE CITIZENS OF NEWARK, WHO BELIEVE IN A BETTER CITY AND A BETTER WAY OF LIFE, WE CAN SUCCEED. IF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE NEWARK HOUSING AUTHORITY WILL IMPROVE THEIR FISCAL AND PROGRAMMATIC AFFAIRS AND PROVE ACCOUNTABLE, WE CAN SUCCEED.

WITH THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NEWARK MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, THOSE WHO PUT PRINCIPALS AND THE GOOD OF THE CITY BEFORE PERSONAL POLITICS, WE CAN SUCCEED.

THE RENAISSANCE BEING EXPERIENCED BY OUR CITY IS THE RESULT OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE BETTERMENT OF NEWARK. I PERSONALLY WISH TO SALUTE THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT, HENRY MARTINEZ.

AND, YES, WE CAN SUCCEED WITH OUR FAIR SHARE OF DOLLARS FROM THE COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS. JUST OUR FAIR SHARE WHEN ALL OF US IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS WORK TOGETHER, WE WILL MAKE NEWARK A SHOWCASE FOR URBAN AMERICA; A CITY THAT LIVES AND PLANS FOR BETTER TOMORROWS. A CITY OF WHICH WE CAN ALL BE PROUD. A CITY THAT WILL OFFER OUR CHILDREN A CHANCE TO GROW AND PROSPER IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

THIS EVENING, WE SHOULD REMEMBER THE LATE, DR. KING, WHO WOULD HAVE BEEN 61 LAST MONDAY, JANUARY 15, AND THE SPECIAL FEELING WE HAVE FOR HIM HERE IN THE CITY OF NEWARK. FOR, HE VISITED

THIS CITY JUST 10 DAYS BEFORE HE WAS FELLED BY AN ASSASSIN'S BULLET IN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE, ON APRIL 4, 1968. TODAY THE WINDS OF CHANGE HE TALKED ABOUT ARE BLOWING ACROSS THIS NATION.

THESE WINDS HAVE REACHED THE CRADLE OF THE CONFEDERACY, VIRGINIA, WHERE L. DOUGLAS WILDER WAS RECENTLY SWORN IN AS THE NATION'S FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN GOVERNOR, AND IN NEW YORK CITY, WHERE DAVID DINKINS IS THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN TO SERVE AS MAYOR OF THE NATION'S LARGEST CITY.

THE WINDS OF CHANGE ARE BLOWING ACROSS THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT, WHERE EAST AND WEST BERLINERS RECENTLY DANCED ON THE BERLIN WALL AND NOW TALK ABOUT ONE FREE AND UNITED GERMANY, AS THEY SING "WE SHALL OVERCOME!" NOT JUST IN NEWARK, CAMDEN, PATERSON, JERSEY CITY OR TRENTON, BUT THINK OF IT IN GERMANY, WHERE THEY TOO REMEMBER DR. KING.

THE WINDS OF CHANGE ARE BLOWING ACROSS PANAMA WHERE THE DICTATORSHIP OF MANUEL NORIEGA, DRUG KINGPIN, HAS BEEN TOPPLED AND REPLACED BY A POPULARLY ELECTED LEADER. THE WINDS OF CHANGE ARE BLOWING ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA WHERE THE BEACHES HAVE BEEN INTEGRATED AND NELSON MANDELA IS SCHEDULED TO BE RELEASED FROM JAIL IN JUST TWO WEEKS.

AND, THOSE WINDS OF CHANGE MUST REACH OTHER COUNTRIES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA; COUNTRIES SUCH AS EL SALVADOR, WHICH IS SUFFERING FROM A FAILED AMERICAN POLICY. HOW CAN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SUPPORT AN ARMY THAT SHOOTS INNOCENT WOMEN, CHILDREN AND CIVILIANS, INCLUDING SIX PRIESTS, AND DENIES FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS TO THE MASSES OF PEOPLE? SHAME ON THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION!

YET, THE PROBLEMS OF OUR CITIES TRANSCEND COLOR, RACE, RELIGION AND GEOGRAPHY. THE PROBLEMS OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DRUGS, HOMELESSNESS, HOUSING, A QUALITY EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE ARE DIVORCED OF COLOR, CREED OR RELIGION. NO HOUSEHOLD, BLACK OR WHITE; RICH OR POOR; SUBURBAN OR URBAN; CAN ESCAPE THE EVER-PRESENT EVILS OF DRUGS AND CRIME.

OUR CHALLENGE HERE IN NEWARK IS TO MAKE THINGS BETTER FOR OUR CHILDREN, THEIR CHILDREN, AND CHILDREN YET UNBORN. IN SO DOING, WE BENEFIT NOT JUST OUR OWN FAMILIES AND OUR OWN CITY, BUT THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND AMERICA AS WELL.

IN LOOKING BACK, I HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH A TEAM OF ADMINISTRATORS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR RICHARD MONTEILH THAT I BELIEVE IS ONE OF THE MOST GIFTED AND MOST TALENTED IN THE COUNTRY. THESE CABINET MEMBERS CAN GO HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH THE HIGHEST CORPORATE LEADERS IN OUR NATION.

UNFORTUNATELY, OUR BUDGET CONSTRAINTS DO NOT ALLOW US TO COMPENSATE THEM AT THE SAME LEVEL, YET THEY REMAIN AMONG THE MOST DEDICATED AND HARDWORKING PROFESSIONALS THAT I KNOW. I AM EXTREMELY PROUD AND PLEASED BY THEIR COMMITMENT AND ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT INNOVATIVE AND EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS DESPITE THE FISCAL LIMITATIONS IMPOSED ON THEIR OFFICES.

IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, I WILL HAVE COMPLETED FOR YOUR PERSONAL REVIEW AND EVALUATION, A "REPORT CARD" ON THE JAMES ADMINISTRATION FROM JULY 1, 1986 THROUGH FEBRUARY 1990. THIS REPORT CARD WILL DETAIL WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN EACH OF OUR FIVE WARDS.

OVER THE PAST THREE AND ONE-HALF YEARS AND THE CURRENT STATUS OF OUR CITY -- OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE AREAS OF PUBLIC SAFETY, HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, BEAUTIFICATION, RECREATION, FINANCIAL STABILITY AND SANITATION. THE "REPORT CARD" WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR EVERY CITIZEN IN OUR CITY.

TONIGHT, HOWEVER, I WILL LIMIT MY REMARKS TO KEY ISSUES AFFECTING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN NEWARK. ISSUES SUCH AS SANITATION, EDUCATION, HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY AND DRUGS. HOWEVER, BEFORE WE DISCUSS THESE AREAS, I WOULD LIKE TO TOUCH BRIEFLY ON THE 1990 PROPOSED BUDGET, WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION WILL PRESENT TO THE CITY COUNCIL IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

AS WE ARE ALL AWARE, CITIES, AS WELL AS THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND OTHER STATES ARE EXPERIENCING FISCAL CRISES OF MAMMOUTH PROPORTIONS. AND, WHILE NEWARK IS NO EXCEPTION, WE CAN TAKE PRIDE IN KNOWING THAT WE HAVE CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED OUR FINANCIAL HEALTH DURING THIS ADMINISTRATION.

WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HOLD THE LINE ON MUNICIPAL SPENDING THROUGH SOUND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, AND THESE EFFORTS WERE RECOGNIZED THIS PAST YEAR BY AN UPGRADING IN OUR CREDIT RATING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 20 YEARS BY STANDARD & POORS, AND MOODY'S.

ALTHOUGH THERE WILL BE A NEED TO RAISE TAXES SLIGHTLY IN 1990 TO FUND PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAMS, THESE INCREASES HAVE BEEN MODEST COMPARED TO THE RISE IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, WHICH IS ABOUT FIVE PERCENT ANNUALLY, AND TAXES LEVIED IN NEIGHBORING MUNICIPALITIES. OF COURSE, KEEPING THIS TAX INCREASE LOW WILL REQUIRE THE FULL COOPERATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE COUNTY OF ESSEX.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSED BUDGET CONTAINS AN IMPROVED LEVEL OF SERVICES AND DOES NOT CALL FOR THE LAYOFF OF ANY PERSONNEL FOR THE FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW.

NOW, LET ME DISCUSS THE ISSUES, I MENTIONED EARLIER.

SANITATION

ON THE QUESTION OF SANITATION, WE MUST ALL ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR A CLEANER CITY. WE MUST END LITTERING AND THE NEGLECT OF OUR PERSONAL PROPERTY WHETHER WE OWN HOMES OR RENT APARTMENTS. WE SIMPLY MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THE FACT THAT THE CITY'S SANITATION DIVISION CANNOT FOLLOW EVERY CITIZEN AROUND WITH A SHOVEL OR POOPER SCOOPER.

HOWEVER, THE CITY'S RECORD IN TRYING TO BEAUTIFY AND KEEP NEWARK CLEAN IS A PROUD ONE. WHAT HAVE WE DONE? FIRST, THERE ARE EMPLOYEES IN THE DIVISION OF SANITATION WHO DESERVE THE PURPLE HEART. THEY HAVE WORKED HARD AND LONG HOURS AND ARE NOT HIGHLY PAID.

AND, BECAUSE OF THE OUTSTANDING WORK OF THESE EMPLOYEES, WHO ARE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MUNICIPAL PAY SCALE, I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT I PLAN TO RECOGNIZE THEM THROUGH AN EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY INCENTIVE AWARDS PROGRAM THAT I WILL BE SUBMITTING SHORTLY TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL. UNDER THIS NEW PROGRAM, EMPLOYEES WILL BE CITED FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY WORK.

THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE, HONOR, AND YES, GRANT FINANCIAL AWARDS TO THOSE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES WHO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR CITY. TONIGHT IT IS OUR SANITATION WORKERS WHOM WE SALUTE. TOMORROW IT COULD

BE A SECRETARY DEMONSTRATING CARE, FRIENDLINESS AND GIVING INFORMATION OVER THE TELEPHONE TO A CITIZEN IN NEED, OR A CLERK IN OUR TAX OFFICE EXPLAINING A DELINQUENT TAX BILL.

BUT, THIS EVENING, LET ME ALSO TAKE THE TIME TO SPEAK ABOUT THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES THAT THE CITY ADMINISTRATION IS PROUD OF IN OUR EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE CLEANLINESS, BEAUTIFICATION AND IMAGE OF OUR CITY.

SANITATION, PHYSICAL APPEARANCE AND IMAGE

- * CORRIDOR BEAUTIFICATION OF MAJOR THOROUGHFARES
- * CITY LAUNCHES "GET INVOLVED, IMPROVE NEWARK PROGRAM"
- * NEWARK LAUNCHES "CLEAN AND LIEN PROGRAM" TO CLEAN DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PRIVATE PROPERTY AND BILL OWNERS
- * CITY CLEANS, FENCES, POLES, SODS AND BEAUTIFIES VACANT LOTS TO DETER ILLEGAL DUMPING
- * ANTI-GRAFFITI PROGRAM - INCLUDING SPRAY PAINT ORDINANCE; HOLDING PROPERTY OWNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR GRAFFITI CLEAN-UP
- * LOVE NEWARK PROGRAM EXPANDED
- * WORKING INMATES NETWORK (WIN) PROGRAM, (USE OF MINIMUM SECURITY PRISONERS TO HELP CLEAN VACANT LOTS) EXPANDED
- * RECYCLING PROGRAM EXCEEDS STATE REQUIREMENTS, RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARDS
- * AGGRESSIVE CITY-WIDE CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN
- * IMPROVED MOTORBROOM SERVICES AND GARBAGE COLLECTION
- * FIRST RECYCLING RANGERS--YOUNGSTERS WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY'S CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAM

- * ADOPT-A-LOT PROGRAM
- * NEIGHBORHOOD RECLAMATION TASK FORCE TO REVITALIZE SELECTED CITY BLOCKS (GLENN GRANT, CHAIRMAN)
- * NEWARK NAMED TREE CITY FOR FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR
- * WASHINGTON, MILITARY AND LINCOLN PARKS REHABILITATED
- * CITY LAUNCHES PROGRAM FOR DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS TO REPLACE SOLID SECURITY GATES WITH SEE-THROUGH GRATING
- * DOWNTOWN LIGHTING/IMAGE PROGRAM--OPERATION SKYLINE AND BANNER
- * SETBACK ORDINANCE SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL TO REQUIRE STREET-SCAPE AMENITIES FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
- * THE CITY IS CLEANER AND BRIGHTER, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE IT EVEN BETTER.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND DRUGS

ON THE PRESSING ISSUE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND DRUGS, I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE SAFETY AND PROTECTION OF THOSE WHO LIVE, WORK AND VISIT OUR CITY REMAIN THE TOP PRIORITY OF THE JAMES ADMINISTRATION. A CITY CANNOT GROW AND PROSPER WITHOUT PROPERLY ENFORCING ITS LAWS. A CITY CANNOT GROW AND PROSPER WHEN INDIVIDUALS DO NOT RESPECT THE RIGHTS AND PROPERTY OF OTHERS.

TO IMPROVE POLICE VISIBILITY, RESPONSE TIME, AND OUR ABILITY TO FIGHT CRIME, WE HAVE RECRUITED, TRAINED AND GRADUATED 300 NEW POLICE OFFICERS, I.E. FOUR CONSECUTIVE CLASSES FROM THE POLICE ACADEMY, WITH A RECORD 100 RECRUITS IN THE CURRENT CLASS. ANOTHER 100 WILL BE HIRED AND PUT INTO THE ACADEMY THIS COMING YEAR.

WE ALSO HAVE ESTABLISHED A POLICE KIOSK AT BROAD AND MARKET STREETS THAT IS STAFFED BY AN OFFICER, 24 HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. WE REINSTATED THE MOUNTED POLICE SQUAD, ADDED A NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART "911" EMERGENCY NUMBER, RETRAINED ALL OUR SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS, AND RECEIVED NATIONAL ATTENTION FOR OUR OPPOSITION TO ANY LEGALIZATION OF DRUGS.

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS BEGUN A MAJOR CRACKDOWN ON AUTO THEFT AND FORMED A MASSIVE ANTI-DRUG OPERATION WITH THE COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S AND SHERIFF'S OFFICES. WE HAVE ALSO IMPLEMENTED LIMITED, ONE-MAN PATROLS TO FREE UP MORE POLICE OFFICERS FROM PAPERWORK TO "FIGHT CRIME."

EVEN OUR FIREFIGHTERS ARE NOW BEING ASKED TO BE MORE VISIBLE IN THEIR JOB-RELATED DUTIES WHEN THEY ARE NOT RESPONDING TO A FIRE. EVERYONE MUST DO MORE TO MAKE OUR CITY WHOLE.

DESPITE OUR LIMITED RESOURCES AND MANPOWER AT THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL, WE HAVE CONTINUED OUR WAR AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING IN NEWARK. FOR WE WILL NEVER SURRENDER OUR STREETS AND NEIGHBORHOODS TO THOSE WHO HAVE NO RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS AND PROPERTY OF OTHERS. WE WILL NEVER SURRENDER TO THESE MERCHANTS OF DEATH!

WE FURTHER CALL UPON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DECLARE THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME, AND ESPECIALLY DRUGS, A NATIONAL PRIORITY.

AND, WE IMPORE OUR STATE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE MORE DOLLARS TO OUR CITIES SO THAT WE CAN HIRE SUFFICIENT PERSONNEL TO FIGHT CRIME. WE HAVE EVEN ASKED THE STATE POLICE TO ASSIST US IN FIGHTING THE WAR ON DRUGS. CAN THEY MAKE A DIFFERENCE? LET ME TELL YOU HOW THEY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

YESTERDAY, STATE TROOPER FERGUSON WHO LIVES IN NEWARK MADE A DIFFERENCE. HE WAS SIMPLY GOING HOME WHEN HE OBSERVED A ROBBERY IN PROGRESS AND IMMEDIATELY APPREHENDED THE HOLD-UP MAN. JUST IMAGINE WHAT A DIFFERENCE IT WOULD MAKE IF WE HAD SIX OR TWELVE STATE TROOPERS ASSIGNED TO NEWARK.

QUITE SIMPLY, WE CANNOT WIN THIS WAR ALONE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, WHETHER IN NEWARK, CAMDEN, PATERSON, TRENTON, EAST ORANGE, SHORT HILLS OR LIVINGSTON. FOR NO STREET, NO NEIGHBORHOOD, NO HOME AND NO LIVING ROOM IS SAFE FROM THE EVILS OF DRUG ABUSE. NOT EVEN MAYORS ARE IMMUNE. IT IS TIME FOR AMERICA TO ACT BEFORE WE LOSE A WHOLE GENERATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE. OUR FUTURE IS AT RISK.

YET, WE CANNOT EXPECT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO "JUST SAY NO" WHEN STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS WILL NOT "JUST SAY YES" TO THE FUNDS AND FACILITIES FOR BETTER EDUCATION, MORE JOB TRAINING, MORE MEANINGFUL JOB OPPORTUNITIES, VARIED RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AND TREATMENT ON DEMAND FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO RETURN TO SOCIETY.

UNTIL WE "JUST SAY YES" TO ALL THE THINGS OUR YOUNG PEOPLE NEED TO PREPARE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY, WE CAN HARDLY ASK OR EXPECT THEM TO "JUST SAY NO" TO DRUGS. NOR SHOULD WE EVER SAY YES TO THE LEGALIZATION OF DRUGS. WE SHOULD NEVER GRANT CITIZENS THE RIGHT TO KILL THEMSELVES WHILE OTHERS MAKE A PROFIT.

TO WIN THIS WAR, NEWARK AND AMERICA NEED GREATER HELP FROM OUR STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS. AND, WE NEED IT NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

IF WE SAY THAT THE GREATEST THREAT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY IS COMMUNISM AND WE BUDGET \$450 BILLION FOR OUR DEFENSE BUDGET, WHY HAVE WE FAILED TO RECOGNIZE DRUGS AS THE GREATEST THREAT TO OUR INTERNAL SECURITY, AND BUDGET ACCORDINGLY? AMERICA IS FAILING ON THE DRUG ISSUE, AND WE FACE THE POSSIBILITY OF BEING DESTROYED FROM WITHIN. AMERICA MUST WAGE A REAL WAR ON DRUGS. IF NOT NOW WHEN? IF NOT FOR OUR CHILDREN, WHO?

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE AREA OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY:

- * FIVE (5) NEW POLICE CLASSES OF RECRUITS SINCE 1986;
LATEST CLASS IS THE LARGEST IN 20 YEARS
- * YOUNGER POLICE FORCE - AVERAGE DROPPED BELOW 40
- * THREE TIER POLICE PROGRAM TO COMBAT DRUGS
- * COMPUTER-AIDED DISPATCH (CAD) SYSTEM INSTALLED
- * TOWING PROGRAM EXPANDED

- * BOOTING PROGRAM STARTED
- * HAND-HELD COMPUTERS INTRODUCED TO TRACT SCOFFLAWS
- * ENTERPRISE ONE POLICE OFFICERS ADDED
- * ONE-MAN PATROL CARS ON NON-PRIORITY CALLS TO BETTER
UTILIZE RESOURCES
- * COORDINATION WITH PRIVATE SECURITY OPERATIONS IN CBD
- * ANTI-AUTO THEFT DEVICES DISTRIBUTED
- * INTER-AGENCY DRUG TASK FORCE
- * TRAFFIC SUMMONS PAYMENTS ARE UP; \$30 MILLION COLLECTED
SINCE 1986
- * MUNICIPAL PROSECUTORS TO HANDLE VARIOUS CITY CODE AND
OTHER VIOLATIONS
- * ILLEGAL DUMPING REWARD PROGRAM
- * AUTO-THEFT TASK FORCE

EDUCATION

THERE IS NO GREATER RESPONSIBILITY FACING TODAY'S EDUCATORS THAN THAT OF PREPARING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW'S WORLD; THE 21ST CENTURY. A WORLD THAT WILL REQUIRE KNOWLEDGE OF SPACE AGE TECHNOLOGY AND FAMILIARITY WITH COMPUTERS; THAT WILL REQUIRE WORKERS TO THINK AND WRITE ANALYTICALLY. OUR CHILDREN MUST NO LONGER BE PREPARED TO COMPETE ONLY WITH EACH OTHER FOR JOBS, BUT WITH YOUNGSTERS FROM EUROPE, JAPAN AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

THOSE SAME STUDENTS WHO CROSSED THE BERLIN WALL FOR FREEDOM IN WEST GERMANY, WHO PROTESTED IN TIANANMEN SQUARE, WILL LIKEWISE CROSS THE OCEANS FOR SEATS IN OUR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, AND FOR JOBS IN OUR COMMUNITIES AS WELL.

WILL OUR CHILDREN BE PREPARED? WILL THEY BE ABLE TO COMPETE? CAN THEY WIN? ONLY TIME WILL TELL. BUT RECENT EDUCATIONAL SCORES REPORTED ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THE STAR-LEDGER PAINT AN UNFAVORABLE PICTURE OF OUR YOUNGSTER'S ABILITY TO COMPETE IN TOMORROW'S WORLD.

HOWEVER, WE CAN BE PROUD OF THE READY SCHOLARS PROGRAM SEVENTH GRADERS, WHICH GUARANTEES A COLLEGE EDUCATION TO SPECIAL YOUNGSTERS IF THEY STAY IN SCHOOL AND DO WELL. THE PROGRAM IS ADMINISTERED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS OF NEWARK AND THE NEWARK BOARD OF EDUCATION.

WE LAUNCHED THIS PROGRAM AFTER A FRIEND WALKED INTO MY OFFICE AND SIMPLY STATED THAT HE WANTED TO HELP. NOW, WITH HIS ASSISTANCE, OVER 170 SEVENTH GRADERS WILL RECEIVE A FREE EDUCATION TO THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY OF THEIR CHOICE IF THEY REMAIN IN SCHOOL, PASS THEIR SUBJECTS AND DEMONSTRATE GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP. THIS REPRESENTS A \$50,000 SCHOLARSHIP TO EACH OF THESE STUDENTS JUST FOR STAYING IN SCHOOL AND DOING THE RIGHT THING. WE NEED TO THANK THIS ANONYMOUS DONOR.

THE NEWARK COLLABORATION GROUP, WHICH I SERVE AS CHAIRMAN, HAS CREATED A NEWARK EDUCATION COUNCIL (NEC)--A CITY-WIDE EFFORT BY CITIZENS AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO FIND WAYS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN NEWARK. WE SALUTE THIS PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP.

WE ARE PROUD, TOO, OF THE AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, RUN JOINTLY BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND NEWARK DIVISION OF RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS IN 25 LOCAL SCHOOLS. THIS PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE LEARNING AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AFTER SCHOOL AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO HANGING OUT ON STREET CORNERS AND FALLING PREY TO ILLICIT ACTIVITIES.

ALSO, MORE RECENTLY, THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING, IN CONCERT WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, HAS CREATED AN ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL FOR FORMER DROPOUTS. THIS PROGRAM HAS HEAVY EMPHASIS ON COUNSELING, SKILLS, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. WE MUST PUSH STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN PUSHED OUT OF SCHOOL, BACK INTO SCHOOL, AND HOLD ON TO THEM.

MORE RECENTLY, I AM MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE NEWARK BOARD OF EDUCATION. THE NEED FOR CANDIDATES TO RAISE MONEY TO RUN IN THESE ELECTIONS FORCES POLITICS, BOTH GOOD AND BAD, INTO OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM.

FINALLY, I ONCE AGAIN CALL FOR THE RETURN TO AN APPOINTED BOARD OF EDUCATION. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER WE HAVE AN APPOINTED OR ELECTED BOARD, THE MAYOR IS STILL HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION AFFORDED OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN AND FOR THE FISCAL STABILITY OF OUR CITY. IF I AM HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN NEWARK, I BELIEVE THAT I SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELECT THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE ON THE SCHOOL BOARD!

IT IS TIME TO MAKE EDUCATION THE HIGHEST PRIORITY IN THE CITY OF NEWARK. ALL CITIZENS MUST ASK THE QUESTION: WHAT ARE WE CURRENTLY GETTING FOR SPENDING \$450 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR EDUCATION? THE BOARD'S BUDGET EXCEEDS OUR MUNICIPAL SPENDING PLAN. OUR TRUE GOAL MUST BE IN EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN INSTEAD OF PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT FOR TEACHERS.

STUDENTS LEARNED IN THE PAST WITH LESS DOLLARS AND FEWER FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS, AND THEY SHOULD LEARN TODAY WITH MORE MONEY BEING SPENT, MORE TEACHERS AND MORE ADMINISTRATORS. HOWEVER, THE STAR-LEDGER SURVEY SHOWED THAT MONEY WAS NOT NECESSARILY A SIGN OF EXCELLENCE. STUDENTS IN DISTRICTS WHERE LESS PER PUPIL WAS SPENT DID AS WELL AS DISTRICTS WHERE THERE WERE GREAT EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL. LET'S REMOVE POLITICS FROM EDUCATION!

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ON THE SUBJECT OF HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, WE ARE WITNESSING A CITY'S RENAISSANCE; A DRAMATIC REBIRTH IS TAKING PLACE IN THE CITY OF NEWARK. THIS REVITALIZATION IS NOT SURPRISING SINCE NEWARK IS STRATEGICALLY LOCATED, WITH A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM--AIR, SEA, RAIL, AND HIGHWAY NETWORK--SECOND TO NONE. PLUS LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION;

YET, WHILE HOMEOWNERSHIP REMAINS THE FULFILLMENT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM, THE PROSPECT OF OWNING A HOME FOR MANY AMERICANS IS ONLY A DREAM. HERE, IN NEWARK, WE HAVE HAD TO BE INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE IN FINDING THE MEANS TO FINANCE, BUILD AND REHABILITATE MUCH-NEEDED, AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

IN ADDITION TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 100 UNIT VICTORY GARDENS, LOW INCOME HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, THE FIRST RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES EVER TO BE BUILT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE CITY, NEWARK HAS JOINED WITH OVER A DOZEN COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS TO BUILD LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING. MONEY TO FINANCE THESE EFFORTS HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH REGIONAL CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENTS OR RCA'S, WITH SUBURBAN COMMUNITIES UNDER THE HISTORIC MOUNT LAUREL SUPREME COURT RULING. WE WILL NOT ALLOW PARSIPPANY TO RENEGE ON A CONTRACT FOR 6.6 MILLION.

WE HAVE STARTED THE CONSTRUCTION OR REHABILITATION OF MORE THAN 3,500 UNITS OF HOUSING IN EVERY WARD OF THIS CITY IN THE LAST THREE YEARS. THESE UNITS RANGE FROM LUXURY TOWNHOUSES AND CONDOMINIUMS TO GARDEN AND HIGH RISE APARTMENTS FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOME FAMILIES.

OUR RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HELPS PROVIDE A RENTAL SUBSIDY FOR SOME OF THESE APARTMENTS TO MAKE THEM EVEN MORE AFFORDABLE TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES. OUR MOST NOTABLE HOUSING SUCCESS IS THE 19-BLOCK UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS SOCIETY HILL COMPLEX WHERE SOME 1,100 AND 110,000 SQUARE FEET OF RETAIL SPACE ARE BEING DEVELOPED BY ONE OF THE NATION'S LEADING BUILDERS, K. HOVNANIAN.

IN THESE TIMES OF DWINDLING FEDERAL HOUSING DOLLARS, NEWARK HAS BEEN A LEADER IN FINDING THE FUNDS AND ASSEMBLING THE DEVELOPMENT TOOLS NEEDED TO PROVIDE VITALLY-NEEDED HOUSING FOR OUR RESIDENTS. BUT, IT HAS NOT BEEN EASY, AND THE CHALLENGE REMAINS TO DO EVEN MORE. WE ARE NOT SATISFIED.

WE WILL NOT BE SATISFIED UNTIL EVERY CITIZEN IS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY OF ENJOYING SAFE, DECENT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING. WE WILL NOT BE SATISFIED UNTIL EVERY HOMELESS PERSON IS OFF OUR STREETS AND PERMANENTLY SHELTERED. WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR CREATIVE WAYS TO CREATIVE FINANCING IN ORDER TO BUILD MORE SAFE, DECENT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

BUT, LET US LOOK AT SOME OF OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE LAST THREE AND ONE-HALF YEARS. IN THE AREA OF HOUSING:

- * INCREASED CONSTRUCTION OF SAFE, DECENT, AFFORDABLE AND MARKET RATE HOUSING. OVER \$150 MILLION IN NEW HOUSING CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION, TOTALLING 2,000 UNITS
- * SECURED \$20 MILLION IN REGIONAL CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENTS (RCA'S) TO DEVELOP 920 LOW AND MODERATE INCOME UNITS FOR PURCHASE AND RENTAL
- * SECURED \$1 MILLION IN HCDA (HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT) FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS
- * SECURED \$9.7 MILLION IN BALANCED HOUSING FUNDING THROUGH THE N.J. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- * SUCCESSFUL RENTAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM
- * CONSTRUCTION OF VICTORY GARDENS--FIRST CITY-SPONSORED HOUSING
- * CONSTRUCTION OF NEW COMMUNITIES/HARTZ MOUNTAIN HARMONY HOUSE, TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES EQUALLY IMPORTANT AS HOUSING IN MAKING OUR CITY WHOLE, IS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE JOBS AND RATABLES IT BRINGS, AND THE POSITIVE IMAGE IT IS GIVING NEWARK. COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT IS TAKING PLACE

THROUGHOUT NEWARK AT A RECORD PACE DESERVES MUCH PRAISE FOR KEEPING OUR WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY WIDE OPEN. HAROLD LUCAS, AL FAIELLA AND EVERETT SHAW HAVE DONE AN OUTSTANDING JOB.

AS AN EXAMPLE OF OUR SUCCESS, WE ARE PROUD TO WELCOME TO NEWARK, THE FOLLOWING WHICH REPRESENTS A "SHARPE CHANGE:"

- * THE NEWARK LEGAL CENTER
- * A NEW SETON HALL LAW SCHOOL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT
- * THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. FEDERAL COURTHOUSE
- * FOUR BRAND NEW HOTELS (DAYS INN, VISTA, RADISSON, AND MARRIOTT COURTYARD)
- * A NEW MCDONALD'S AND MINI SHOPPING MALL IN THE WEST WARD
- * NEW COMMUNITIES "PATHMARK" SHOPPING MALL
- * GRACE WEST "IGA" SHOPPING MALL
- * CECIL SANDERS' BRUCE STREET "UNIVERSITY PLAZA" SHOPPING MALL
- * SAM ALLEN'S WEST SIDE HEIGHTS MINI-MALL
- * GARY GARRIS' MIXED-USED DEVELOPMENT (STORES & HOUSING)
- * A NEW WEST WARD FIREHOUSE
- * A NEW MUNICIPAL WELFARE BUILDING
- * BROADWAY MINI-MALL
- * A NEW METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH UNDER CONSTRUCTION
- * A NEW ST. JOHN'S UNIFIED FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
- * THE EXPANSION OF THE GREATER ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
- * A NEW ST. BENEDICT'S PREP SCHOOL ANNEX
- * \$20 MILLION RENOVATION OF THE NEWARK MUSEUM

- * A PROPOSED \$200 MILLION NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
- * HARTZ MOUNTAIN'S REHABILITATION OF 2 CEDAR STREET
- * BRANFORD PLACE REHABILITATED - MINI-MALL
- * \$2 MILLION URBAN MASS TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (UMTA) GRANT TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR A RAIL LINK BETWEEN DOWNTOWN AND NEWARK AIRPORT
- * HARRY GRANT'S RENAISSANCE MALL

AND MANY MORE.....FOR WE HAVE ONLY JUST BEGUN!

SUMMARY

IN SUMMARY, THE CITY OF NEWARK IS BEING RUN EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY AS A BUSINESS. WE HAVE ASSESSED MANY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN A MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATION UNDERTAKEN BY COOPERS & LYBRAND AND IMPLEMENTED SOME OF THEIR PROPOSALS TO ACHIEVE OUR GOAL OF A FISCALLY, HEALTHY, WELL RUN GOVERNMENT THAT IS RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE TO THE CITIZENS OF NEWARK.

ALTHOUGH OUR WORK REMAINS UNFINISHED, FOR WE HAVE NOT REACHED THE PROMISED LAND, WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MANY THINGS IN A RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. THERE IS NOW OPPORTUNITY TO ACCOMPLISH MUCH MORE. YOU WHO HAVE COME OUT TONIGHT AND CITIZENS FROM ALL OVER THE CITY ARE NOW PARTICIPATING IN OUR REVITALIZATION

EFFORTS, AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, COUNTY AND STATE GOVERNMENT ARE SUPPORTIVE. THEREFORE, WITH YOUR CONTINUED HELP, NEWARK IS WELL ON ITS WAY TO A FULL RECOVERY, AND TO BRIGHTER TOMORROWS, BRIGHTER THAN ANY OF OUR YESTERDAYS. THEN, NEWARK CAN ONCE AGAIN CLAIM ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE NOT ONLY AS THE LARGEST CITY IN NEW JERSEY, BUT ALSO THE BEST CITY BY FAR.

ON THAT GREAT DAY WE SHALL AGAIN REMEMBER THE WORDS OF DR. KING AND WE SHALL JOYFULLY SHOUT "FREE AT LAST FREE AT LAST, THANK GOD ALMIGHTY WE ARE FREE AT LAST."

THANK YOU!